



National Aeronautics and
Space Administration



NASA Space Place

Educator Newsletter

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NEWS AND NOTES FOR FORMAL AND INFORMAL EDUCATORS

Space Place is a NASA website for elementary school-aged kids, their teachers, and their parents.

It's colorful!
It's dynamic!
It's fun!

It's rich with
science,
technology,
engineering, and
math content!

It's informal.
It's meaty.
It's easy to read
and understand.
It's also in Spanish.
And it's free!

It has over 150
separate modules
for kids, including
hands-on projects,
interactive games,
animated cartoons,
and amazing facts
about space and
Earth science and
technology.

Happy New Year! While you're jotting down those New Year's resolutions, be sure to check out what's happening at NASA Space Place, and to keep up with all the latest, follow us on Facebook and Twitter @nasaspaceplace.

New!

Make a pastel aurora

These displays are caused by energy that comes from the sun. You can make your own colorful aurora with oil pastels.

<http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/pastel-aurora>

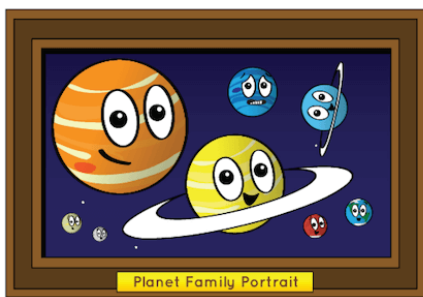


New!

Why are planets round?

And how round are they? Could some be rounder than others?

<http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/planets-round>



New!

All about Earth's atmosphere

Explore all six layers of Earth's atmosphere in this new series.

<http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/atmosphere>

What is a galaxy?

We live on a planet called Earth that is part of our solar system. But where is our solar system? It's a small part of the Milky Way Galaxy.

<http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/galaxy>



Explore Earth and space at spaceplace.nasa.gov

New Game!

Play Helios! This game challenges you to keep the fusion reaction going in the sun. It won't be easy. You have to

combine protons and neutrons in just the right way to make helium and release energy. Keep the sun shining brightly!

<http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/helios-game>



Interactive Books

NASA Space Place has interactive books about planets, technology, and space. Turn the pages with your mouse or print out a PDF.

<http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/search/books>

Lucy's Planet Hunt

Lucy wonders whether there could be life elsewhere in the universe.



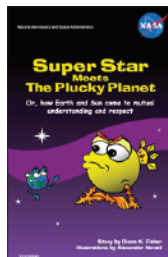
First Annual Planet Awards

We will see which planets are the best in the solar system.



Super Star Meets the Plucky Planet

This is the story of how Earth and the sun come to mutual understanding and respect.



Special Days

Noteworthy days in NASA and space history you can observe in your classroom.

January 7 — In 1610, Galileo discovers Jupiter's four largest moons.

Find out how many moons Jupiter has, as well as the rest of the planets in our solar system.

<http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/how-many-moons>

January 14— The Huygens Probe landed on Saturn's moon Titan in 2005.

Learn more about Saturn, the planet with the most beautiful rings!

<http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/all-about-saturn>

January 31 — On this day in 1958, Explorer 1 was the first U.S. satellite launched into orbit.

Do you know what happens to satellites when they're old and need to be replaced?

<http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/satellite-graveyard>

February 6 — On this day in 1971, astronauts played golf on the moon!

Why is there less gravity on the moon? What is gravity anyway?

<http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/what-is-gravity>

February 18 — Pluto discovered on this day in 1930.

What we now know about this tiny dwarf planet.

<http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/ice-dwarf>

February 20 — First American, John Glenn, orbited Earth in 1962.

See pictures of astronauts in action.

<http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/gallery-technology>

